Appl. No. 09/773,665 Reply to Office Action of: September 12, 2005 MAR 0 9 2006

## IN THE UNITED STATES PAREN & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.:

09/773,665

Applicant:

Donald B. Johnson et al.

Filed:

February 2, 2001

Title:

MASKED DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Art Unit:

2135

Examiner:

KLIMACH, Paula W.

Docket No.:

14774

Mail Stop AF
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Sir:

This is further to the Office Action dated September 12, 2005. Applicant advises that a Request for Continued Examination along with a request for a three-month extension of time are being filed concurrently herewith. Applicant wishes to present the following remarks:

Amendments to the Claims: are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks: begin on page 4 of this paper.